

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 15, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-38 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 19, and 32 are independent claims. Claims 1, 19, and 32 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter has been added. Please review the enclosed Proposed Claim Amendments and confirm that the proposed amendments are acceptable.

Claims 1, 9-10, 12-13, 19, 25-27, 29, and 31-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,108,540 of Sonti et al. ("Sonti") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,697,620 of Lamb et al. ("Lamb"). The Office Action took the position that Sonti teaches all of the elements of independent claims 1, 19, and 32, except "a network entity with control information associated with at least one limitation regarding simultaneous registrations allowed for the subscriber or the user." The Office Action supplied Lamb to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the combination of Sonti and Lamb.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-18 and 38 depend, is directed to a method including receiving a registration request for registration of a user relating to a subscriber in a network entity in a communication system. The method also includes providing the

network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered. The method further includes controlling the registration based on the control information.

Claim 19, upon which claims 20-31 depend, is directed to a communication system including a network entity configured to receive requests for registration of users relating to subscribers. The communication system also includes a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered. The communication system further includes a controlling unit configured to control the registration of a user relating to a subscriber based on the control information.

Claim 32, upon which claims 33-37 depend, is directed to a network entity including means for receiving requests for registration of users relating to subscribers. The network entity also includes means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered. The network entity further includes means for controlling the registration of a user relating to a subscriber based on the control information.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti and Lamb fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of any of the presently pending claims.

Sonti is directed to a multi-profile subscriber. As explained by Sonti at column 6, line 63, to column 8, line 18, a mobile station can begin by sending a registration message to the base station, and the base station can notify its mobile switching center. After a number of intermediate steps, the mobile switching center can determine to send a registration notification message to the home location register.

However, as the Office Action correctly noted, Sonti fails to disclose or suggest “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 32. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti and Lamb also fails to disclose or suggest at least these features, because Lamb fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti.

Lamb is directed to a method and system for providing telecommunication services across networks that use different protocols. Lamb, at column 7, line 63, to column 8, line 8, describes that a USLR 1000 can enable customers to be simultaneously

registered in multiple networks, and that the USLR 1000 manages the interaction of the services between networks.

Lamb, however, fails to disclose or suggest “control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered” as recited by proposed claims 1, 19, and 32. Indeed, Lamb does not appear to place any limitation on the number of simultaneous registrations, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered.

The Office Action took the position that Lamb limits simultaneous registrations, supposedly because simultaneous registrations are possible only “with networks in which the user is authorized to access.” Although Applicants submit that the Office Action’s rationale is mistaken, Applicants note that Lamb does state, at column 5, lines 63-65, that “The ULSR 1000 also determines 330 from the user profile whether the user can be simultaneously registered in both the ANSI-41 and GSM networks 3100, 3150.”

However, each of the independent claims has been clarified to recite: “with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered.” As clarified, it should be evident that Lamb (either taken alone or in combination with Sonti) fails to disclose the recited features, and that the combination of Sonti and Lamb fails to disclose the recited features, since Sonti is silent with regard to these features. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1, 19, and 32 be withdrawn.

Claims 9-10, 12-13, 25-27, 29, and 31 depend respectively from, and further limit, claims 1 and 19. It is, therefore, respectfully submitted that each of claims 9-10, 12-13, 25-27, 29, and 31 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the combination of Sonti and Lamb. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 9-10, 12-13, 25-27, 29, and 31 be withdrawn.

Claims 2 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti and Lamb in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,115,613 of Jonsson (“Jonsson”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach all of the elements of the claim except “determining that the subscriber comprises at least one user.” The Office Action supplied Jonsson to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 2 and 38 depend from and further limit claim 1. At least some of the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb with respect to claim 1 are discussed above. Jonsson fails to remedy the above-identified deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Jonsson is directed to a system and method for providing telephone service to each member of a group of radio telephone subscribers. Jonsson, at column 3, line 59, to column 4, line 6, discusses a scenario in which a mobile telephone subscription is for a group of members, but that each member has access to private telephone service.

Jonsson, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding claim 1, namely: “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the

user, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and Jonsson fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 2 and 38, because Jonsson fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti and Lamb in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,077,790 of D’Amico et al. (“D’Amico”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach most of the elements of the claims, but not all. The Office Action supplied D’Amico to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37 depend respectively from, and further limit, claims 1, 19, and 32. At least some of the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb with respect to claims 1, 19, and 32 are discussed above. D’Amico fails to remedy the above-identified deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

D’Amico is directed to securing over-the-air registration of cordless telephones. D’Amico, at column 3, lines 3-27, describes checking credit information of a subscriber as complying (or not) with certain qualifying criteria. If the result is negative and the subscriber does not comply, the network operator enters an “invalid” flag into the network control center.

D’Amico, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding the independent claims, namely: “providing the network entity with

control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 32. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and D’Amico fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37, because D’Amico fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti and Lamb in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0009520 of Herrero et al. (“Herrero”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach most of the elements of the claims, but not all. The Office Action supplied Herrero to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36 depend respectively from, and further limit, claims 1, 19, and 32. At least some of the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb with respect to claims 1, 19, and 32 are discussed above. Herrero fails to remedy the above-identified deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Herrero is generally directed to a method and system for handling multiple registrations. Herrero, at paragraph [0072] provides an allegedly simplified signaling flow of a registration process. The process begins with a user sending a registration request, along the way the system checks to see if the user is already registered (as can be seen in paragraph 0078), and, if not, eventually registers the user (as can be seen at paragraph 0081).

Herrero, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding the independent claims, namely: “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers, with respect to the number of users or addresses that can be registered,” as recited in claim 32. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and Herrero fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36, because Herrero fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

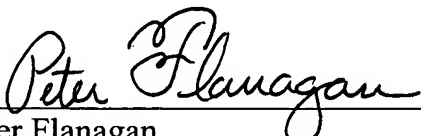
For the reasons explained above, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-38 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited art. It is,

therefore, respectfully requested that all of claims 1-38 be allowed, and that this application be passed to issuance.

If, for any reason, the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Flanagan
Registration No. 58,178

Customer No. 32294
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY LLP
14TH Floor
8000 Towers Crescent Drive
Tysons Corner, Virginia 22182-2700
Telephone: 703-720-7800
Fax: 703-720-7802

PCF:kzw